

Message Text

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15

ORIGIN EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 L-03 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 FEA-01 OMB-01

TRSE-00 SS-15 NSC-05 /049 R

DRAFTED BY EB/OA/AVP:SCKEITER:JO

APPROVED BY EB/TT:JBILLER, ACTING

EB/OA/AVP:AJWHITE

EB/OA:MHSTYLES (DRAFT)

EB/AN:TROESCH

L/EB:TJTALLERICO (INFO)

CAB:ECORBOY - FAA/AIA:NPLUMMER

DOT:DSCHROEDER - EA/ANP:HNELSON

EB/FSE(INFO)

FEA:KBAUER (INFO)

----- 101276

R 300200Z JAN 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMCONSUL MELBOURNE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, ENRG, AS, US

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE DISCUSSION OF AVIATION FUEL PRICING

REF : STATE 11359, 19279, 271539

1. FOLLOWING ARE USDEL'S INSTRUCTIONS REGARDING
POSSIBLE DISCUSSION OF AVIATION FUEL PRICING IN AUSTRALIA
IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE FEB 2 DISCUSSION OF AUSTRALIAN
USER CHARGES.

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2. USDEL SHOULD CONSULT FULLY WITH EMBASSY BEFORE

RAISING SUBJECT. EVEN IF NOT RAISED WITHIN DISCUSSIONS
AS SUCH, IT MAY BE USEFUL TO DO SO IN CORRIDOR.

3. IF SUBJECT RAISED, USDEL SHOULD NOTE USG HOPE THAT
GOA WILL NOT GO FORWARD WITH PLAN TO RAISE AVIATION
FUEL PRICES IN AUSTRALIA TO WORLD LEVEL FOR FLIGHTS
LEAVING THAT COUNTRY. OBSERVE THAT U.S. MAKES SUCH
FUEL AVAILABLE AT DOMESTIC PRICES, WHICH ARE LOWER THAN
WORLD ONES. (FYI: WE UNDERSTAND THAT IN FACT QANTAS
DOES NOT BUY DOMESTIC FUEL, BUT MORE EXPENSIVE BONDED
FUEL, PRESUMABLY TO AVOID U.S. ALLOCATION SYSTEM.)

4. IF IT APPEARS THAT PLAN TO REQUIRE WORLD-LEVEL

PRICES HAS FAIR OR BETTER CHANCE OF GOING FORWARD, DRAW
ON ARGUMENTS SET FORTH IN DRAFT NOTE TRANSMITTED STATE
271539 TO OPPOSE IDEA OF SETTING DIFFERENT PRICES FOR
DIFFERENT AIRLINES. IN BRIEF, THESE ARE:

- A. SUCH SYSTEM WOULD RESULT IN LESS THAN FAIR AND
EQUAL OPPORTUNITY TO COMPETE.
- B. IMPOSED SYSTEM CANNOT HOPE TO DUPLICATE EXACTLY
NUANCES OF MARKET-DETERMINED SYSTEM.
- C. IT IS EASIER TO JUNK AN INEQUITABLE SYSTEM AT THE
BEGINNING THAN AFTER IT IS WELL-ESTABLISHED. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

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